Sonobuoy Processing and Control System

804. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sonobuoy Processing and Control System essential for processing of date relating to submarine was developed in June, 1987 to meet Navy's projected operational demand;

(b) if so, the amount invested therein;

(c) whether the efficacy and acceptability of the system was yet to be established before paving the way for bulk production; and

(d) if so, the reasons for undertaking this project?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The project Sonobuoy Processing and Control System was successfully developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in June 1989. The technology was transferred to Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., (ECIL) Hyderabad.

(b) The total development cost of the project was 215.03 lakh.

(c) The efficacy and acceptability of the system has been established through extensive trials conducted on submarine and various airborne platforms. The system was cleared for induction in 1991. Production order for 11 systems has been placed on M/s. ECIL, Hyderabad.

(d) India has a vast coastline and many strategic offshore and on shore installations, the use of Sonobuoys and Processing Systems offers very cost effective means of underwater surveillance.

IAF Air show at Srinagar

805. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Air Force organised an air show at Srinagar in July, 2003 for general public there;

(b) whether a recruitment drive of airmen was also launched on the occasion;

(c) if so, the response of youth of the Kashmir Valley; and

(d) the number of persons selected for Air Force?